

SCATHING REPORT.

The New Orleans Grand Jury Virtually Sustains the Recent Lynchings—The Hennessy Jury Bribed By the Mafia and the Course of Justice Perverted.

NEW ORLEANS, May 6.—After six weeks, investigation the grand jury completed its labor in the Hennessy case and the killing of the Italians at the parish prison by presenting a voluminous report virtually exonerating the lynchings on the ground that it was clearly in evidence that the Hennessy jury had been bribed. Speaking of the Mafia the report has this to say:

The extended range of our researches has developed the existence of the secret organization styled "Mafia." The evidence comes from several sources, fully competent in themselves to attest its truth, while the fact is supported by the long record of blood-curdling crimes, it being almost impossible to discover the perpetrators or secure witnesses. As if to guard against exposure, the dagger or stiletto is selected as the deadly weapon to plunge into the breast or back of the victim and thereby to destroy the evidence. Revenge was their motto. Jealousy and malice speedily found solace in these methods, while the burning vengeance of the vendetta sought satisfaction in the life blood of an enemy. The officers of the Mafia and many of its members are not known. Among them are men who in the city of Italian origin using their power for the basest purposes, be it said to their eternal disgrace.

The larger number of the society is composed of Italians and Sicilians, who left their native land in most instances, under assumed names, to avoid conviction and punishment for crimes committed, and others were escaped convicts and bandits, outlawed in their own land, seeking the city of New Orleans for the congenial companionship of their own class. These men know the swift retribution of the law in Italy, for hundreds have been shot down at sight by the military in the mountains of Sicily without second thought. To-day there is record in the office of the Italian consul in this city the names of 1,300 Italian and Sicilian landed here during several years past, showing the official record of their criminality in Italy and Sicily. Hundreds of them are among us to-day. We doubt not the Italian government would rather bid of them than be charged with their custody and punishment.

Such is the well known character of a part of the Italian colony, as it is called, who are domiciled in this city and vicinity. It can not be questioned that secret organizations whose teachings are hostile to the fundamental principles of the government of the United States must be a continual menace to the good order of society and the material welfare of the people. Whether under the name of Mafia, Socialist, Nationalist, or whatever it may be, whether located in New Orleans, Chicago or New York, the meetings of their members, and the dissemination of their opinions, with a manifest tendency to advocate acts whose commission parades of the rank of treason.

The necessity for restrictions in immigration from Italy especially is pointed out as follows:

We have stated in our remarks about the Mafia that several hundred Italian criminals are in this city who should not have left their native land. In addition to this, the Mafia of the American continent is to character and should not have been permitted to land here. The time has passed when this country can be made the dumping ground for the worthless and depraved of every nation. The crisis is reached when the magnitude of the issue becomes the duty of the next congress to quickly enact such vigorous laws that complete protection be afforded henceforth against these evils.

At the same time we shall plainly say from our own experience that a large part of the Italian colony in this city is recognized as a worthless class. They do not indulge freely in the use of beer or alcoholic drinks. Early industrious, those who remain in the city soon save up a few dollars more by the strictest frugality than otherwise, and soon are doing something for their own benefit. As it by common consent the fruit and oyster business has drifted into the hands of the Italians, the volume of which are in wholesale and retail lines reaching immense proportions. What more could they wish? What more could they do? They are content to stay on this earth would extend to any newcomers such privileges, and what do we ask in return? Simply that they, like others of foreign birth, should conform to existing laws by which their persons and property are protected, and to participate in thought and deed with our people in upholding the right; to rise above the fears and persuasions of secret societies, helping to crush their power; and above all else showing an allegiance to the principles of the national and state governments with no doubtful fidelity, realizing that the one flag, as the emblem of freedom, is not less the index of a nation's power, as the stars and stripes, which must and shall be respected.

Concluding the report says:

The assassination of the late chief of police showed the culmination of a conspiracy. His death was deemed necessary to prevent the exposure and punishment of criminals whose guilt was being fast established by his diligent pursuit. The condition of affairs in this city toward a certain class of violators of the law had reached such a stage that the law itself was well nigh powerless to deal with them so far reaching was their power and influence, in the trial of criminal cases. Good citizens were profoundly impressed by the repeated and signal failures of justice. The arts of the perverter and lawbreaker were dominant in the courts, paralyzing and rendering powerless the ends of justice. Certainly this was a desperate situation.

In the public meeting above referred to—general and spontaneous in character as truly indicating an uprising of the masses—we doubt if any power at the command of the authorities would have been sufficient to overcome its intensity. Evidence is before us from official sources that eleven persons were killed in the attack on the parish prison. In the careful examination as to the citizenship of those men it was found that eight of them were beyond question American citizens, and another had "declared his intention" in this court, which act carries with it the renunciation of allegiance to his native country.

It is a noteworthy fact in connection with the uprising that no injury whatever was done to either person or property beyond the one act which seemed to have been the object of the assemblage at the parish prison. We have referred to the large number of citizens participating in this demonstration, and estimates of judges at from 6,000 to 8,000 regarded as a spontaneous uprising of the people. The magnitude of this affair makes it a difficult task to fix the guilt upon any number of participants, and the fact seemed to involve the entire people of the parish and city of New Orleans, so profuse is their sympathy and extended their connection with the affair. In view of these considerations the thorough examination of the subject has failed to disclose the necessary facts to justify the grand jury in presenting judgments.

Mangled By a Stallion.

MASON CITY, Ia., May 6.—John Penfield, a horse importer of Clarion, met with a fatal accident. He was leading two stallions through the streets, when they became enraged and each began kicking and biting the other in a frightful manner. Penfield seized a club and attempted to separate them, when one of the enraged stallions grabbed him by the shoulder and inflicted terrible injuries about his person. The horse would not relinquish his hold on Penfield and his mouth had to be pried open with a neck yoke. Penfield was horribly mangled, but is still living.

PRESS OPINION.

Newspaper Comment Upon the Report of the New Orleans Grand Jury.

LONDON, May 7.—The St. James Gazette says: "The jury has done just what might have been expected, and its findings possess a polemical interest which, it may be feared, the Marquis di Rudini will not fully appreciate. If Secretary Blaine sticks to his guns and insists that constitutional authority has pronounced on the issue, that the constitution provides no machinery for the government's going behind the decision of the New Orleans jury, his proposition will be still more unsatisfactory to Italy than it was at the beginning."

The News says: "The report of the New Orleans grand jury is cold comfort for Italy. The only satisfaction which it is now in America's power to offer is a closer pursuit of the corrupt jury-men."

NEW YORK OPINION.

NEW YORK, May 7.—Speaking of the result of the deliberation of the New Orleans grand jury Editor Barsotti, of Il Progresso, yesterday remarked: "It is what we thought would be done. It is an outrage that these men should escape for what they have done."

The Post says: "It is the apology of a political committee for an act of direct revolutionary violence committed by the entire population of a large city and expressed in the inflated rhetoric in which such manifestoes are usually couched. It is a concession by a competent authority that the machinery of criminal justice has completely broken down in the state of Louisiana and that crimes of any magnitude have to be punished by a revolutionary tribunal. It holds no promise of a better or more regular administration of local justice, but it throws some light on the working of the jury system in New Orleans which the people of other cities, and particularly those of New York, will do well to read, mark and inwardly digest."

The Herald says: "That is the verdict of the grand jury which speaks for the people of New Orleans. It will be the verdict of the American people and of the civilized world wherever the facts are known. It is no time to sermonize about mob violence. An uprising of the people is not an outbreak of a mob. It is idle to moralize about law and justice taking their usual course. The Mafia instead of the community is now terrorized. The lives of law abiding citizens are safer there. Justice has been vindicated by the people. The end justified the means."

CHICAGO OPINION.

CHICAGO, May 7.—The Daily News (ind.) says: "It is a rather singular coincidence that the New Orleans grand jury report became public property on the same day on which it became known that Signor Rudini, Italy's prime minister, had joined the parliamentary association for the promotion of international arbitration and peace. Arbitration will afford an opportunity to the United States to prove to the European governments that the responsibility for the New Orleans tragedy, and for many other bloody conflicts between outraged American citizens and alien forces transferred to American soil, rests primarily with the European governments."

The Inter Ocean (rep.) says: "Clearly these men were not living in the 'peace of the United States,' as the legal phrase goes, and therefore their murder is not subject for complaint by any foreign power."

The Times (dem.) says: "The members of the jury seem to have given too broad a meaning to the statement of Burke that you cannot indict a whole people. But there remains the fact that the conclusion they arrived at while the logical result of the conditions of existing interests is a disgrace to the state and the nation."

NEW ORLEANS OPINION.

NEW ORLEANS, May 7.—The States says: "Naturally the grand jury could indict no one, or no number of those concerned in this business. 'The people' did it; and no grand jury could devise a way to indict the 'people.'"

The Times-Democrat says: "The grand jury has given the proper return in the parish prison lynching, a return that will meet with the approval of the entire people, not of New Orleans alone, but of the country."

MISCELLANEOUS VIEWS.

WASHINGTON, May 7.—The Washington Post says: "The report of the New Orleans grand jury reaches the only conclusion that while it may have been necessary to strike terror to a dangerous class of the community by the arbitrament of a self-constituted court there are still other and equally dangerous elements that would also seem to require heroic treatment."

LOUISVILLE, Ky., May 7.—The Courier-Journal says: "The serious issue in the whole matter lies not between America and Italy, but between law and crime. As it is in New Orleans, so it is to a great extent all over the country. If the degradation of the instruments of law were, like yellow fever, merely a local manifestation, limited by lines of latitude, it would be far less serious than it is."

CHARLESTON, S. C., May 7.—The News and Courier will say: "The report of the grand jury is very long, but vague, indefinite and inconclusive. Admitting the truth of the charges that there was chronic demoralization of the administration of justice in the parish of New Orleans there was no justification for the massacre."

PHILADELPHIA, May 7.—The Press will say: "The grand jury files a profuse apology for the breach of the law, and it makes no attempt to vindicate the administration of justice. It practically admits that in New Orleans the orderly administration of the law has become impossible."

St. Louis, May 7.—The Post-Dispatch says: "The lynchings themselves could not have written a more earnest and labored defense of their slaughter of eleven men as a most praiseworthy public service, rendered necessary by the failure of the trial jury to convict the smaller number indicted, tried and acquitted."

HIS HANDS FULL.

Secretary Blaine Has His Hands Full of International Complications—The Behring Sea Controversy.

WASHINGTON, May 8.—There is a vast accumulation of matters requiring attention from the state department just now and Secretary Blaine will probably be a busy man during the summer. The recent events in the Chilean situation have added to the complexity of affairs and there is now a long docket of unsolved diplomatic problems, as follows: The Italian and Behring sea complications, the Canadian reciprocity and Newfoundland fisheries negotiations, the Spanish agreement, the Venezuelan treaty, the Haytian coaling station, the refusal of China to receive Minister Blair, the trouble over the failure of a consul at Victoria to toast the queen and quite a number of minor matters, including the claim of the Barundia family.

The last note of Mr. Blaine in answer to Lord Salisbury has been made public. The points of arbitration are considered serious and suggestions made. A more recent case of Great Britain claiming jurisdiction over outside waters is pointed as a reason why the same may be done by the United States in the Behring sea. The secretary says, in concluding his note:

Two or three instances of the power which Great Britain exercises beyond the three mile line have already been quoted, but have failed thus far to secure comment or explanation from Lord Salisbury. Another case can be added which perhaps is still more to the point. In 1889—only two years ago—the British parliament enacted a law, the effect of which is fully shown by a map enclosed herewith.

If Great Britain may thus control an area of 2,700 square miles of ocean on the coast of Scotland, why may not the United States prescribe a space around the Pribiloff islands in which similar prohibitions may be enforced? The following would be the needed legislation for such a purpose by congress, and it is but a paraphrase of the act of parliament: "The fur seal board may by bylaw or bylaws direct that the methods of sealing known as spearing, or spearing, or with firearms, shall not be used within a line drawn from the shores of the Pribiloff island, sixty miles in the Behring sea, and said board may from time to time make, alter and revoke bylaws for the purpose of this section, but no such bylaw shall be of any force until it has been approved by the secretary of the treasury. Second—Any person who uses any method of sealing in contravention of such bylaws shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$100 for the first offense and not exceeding \$500 for the second or any subsequent offense, and every spearing harpoon or firearm attempted to be used in contravention of any such bylaw may be seized and destroyed or otherwise disposed of as said fur seal board may direct."

It must be an observation that the area of water outside the three mile line on the coast of Scotland, whose control is assumed by Great Britain, is as large as would be found inside a line drawn from Cape Cod to Portland harbor on the New England coast. Lord Salisbury's recent statement that the words "Pacific ocean" at the time of the treaty between Russia and Great Britain did include Behring sea. Undoubtedly the Pacific ocean includes Behring sea in the same sense that the Atlantic ocean includes the Gulf of Mexico, and yet it would be regarded a very inaccurate statement to say that the Mississippi river flows into the Atlantic ocean. I think Lord Salisbury fails to recognize the common distinction between the "Atlantic ocean" and "the waters of the Atlantic." While the Mexican gulf is not a part of the Atlantic ocean it would, I am sure, comport with general usage to say that it belonged to the waters of the Atlantic, and while Behring sea is not technically a part of the Pacific ocean it undoubtedly belongs to the waters of the Pacific. The English channel would ordinarily be understood to be included in the term, "Atlantic ocean." One would not say that Dover or Calais is on the coast of the Atlantic ocean, and yet clearly the English channel belongs to the waters of the Atlantic.

In point of fact, therefore, according to the usage of the world, there is no dispute of any consequence between the two governments on the geographical point under consideration. The historical point is the one at issue. The explanatory note from Russia, filed in the state department in this country, specially referred to in Mr. John Quincy Adams' diary and quoted in my note of December 17, 1891, plainly draws a distinction between the Pacific ocean on the one hand and the sea of Okhotsk, the sea of Kamtschatka and the icy sea on the other; and so long as Russia drew that distinction it must apply to and must be maintained by all the contentions between the two countries so far as the waters of the Behring sea are concerned. To discuss this point further would, in the opinion of the president, contribute nothing of value to the general contention.

In the opinion of the president, Lord Salisbury is wholly and strangely in error in making the following statement: "Nor do they (the advisers of the president) rely as a justification for the seizure of British ships in the open sea, upon the contention that the United States government any right for that purpose which, according to international law, it would not otherwise possess." The government of the United States has steadily taken just the reverse of the position in the opinion of the president. It holds that the ownership of the islands upon which the seals breed, that the habit of the seals in regularly resorting thither and roving their young thereon, that their going out from the islands in search of food and regularly returning thereon, and as included in the rights of their relation to the island give to the United States a property interest therein; that this property interest was claimed and exercised by Russia during the whole period of its sovereignty over the land and waters of Alaska. It is yet to be determined whether the lawless intrusion of Canadian vessels in 1886 and subsequent years has changed the law and equity of the case thereto prevailing. I have the honor to be, with the highest consideration, sir, your most obedient servant, JAMES G. BLAINE.

A Point By the Post.

LONDON, May 8.—The Post comments severely upon the unsatisfactory aspect of the New Orleans dispute with reference to the relations of the federal government with foreign countries. "We cannot suppose that Mr. Blaine deliberately intends to put forth documents of purely domestic significance as the basis of negotiations with Italy."

National Republican League.

NEW YORK, May 8.—The protracted conference of the National Republican league, which has been in session for a week, closed yesterday. The appointment of a sub-executive committee was postponed until July 1, when a meeting was called of all members of the national committee of the league and all the presidents of the state leagues. Mr. T. E. Byrnes, of Minnesota, has been appointed national organizer of the league. The league's national headquarters have been established at No. 303 Fifth avenue, and will be in charge of Secretary A. B. Humphrey.

STONED BY A MOB.

An American Citizen and His Daughter Stoned By a Mob in Italy—How the Department at Washington Views the New Orleans Grand Jury Report.

ROME, May 7.—While Mr. William Jacques, an American gentleman from Newton, Mass., was out driving with his daughter at Florence, his carriage was pursued by a mob of people who attacked it and pelted it with stones. His daughter, who interfered in his behalf, was injured.

BOSTON, May 7.—William Jacques, of Newton, Mass., who with his daughter was assaulted by an Italian mob at Florence yesterday, is the electrician of the American Bell Telephone Co. He is on a pleasure trip abroad and intends to be gone about six months. He sailed for England about a month ago. He is well known in this and other eastern cities. He is spoken of as a quiet, inoffensive man. He is highly educated and was at one time a professor of Johns Hopkins college, Baltimore. His friends and those who knew him are at a loss to account for the assault upon him.

ITALY HAS NO LEGAL CASE.

WASHINGTON, May 7.—The report of the New Orleans grand jury upon the killing of the Italians was a fruitful theme for discussion among people at the department of state. It is said that the findings of the grand jury excited no surprise, for some such conclusion of the case was expected.

The attempt to palliate the infraction of the law by offsetting the alleged attempts at jury fixing is deprecated by the legal minds of the department, but there is a well defined opinion that on the whole the outcome will be beneficial in its effect upon the turbulent foreign elements in the United States, inasmuch as it will make clear to them the fact that they cannot rely upon treaties to escape responsibility to the great public for their unlawful acts.

INTERNATIONAL Y. M. C. A.

The Convention at Kansas City Elects Permanent Officers.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 6.—The opening session of the twenty-ninth international convention of the Y. M. C. A. of the United States and Canada was held in the Calvary Baptist church, at the corner of Ninth and Harrison streets, this morning. At 11:10 o'clock F. Y. Jacobs, the general secretary of the Hannibal, Mo., association, announced the hymn "Blest Be the Tie That Binds," and with this the convention opened.

H. M. Clark, of Detroit, the state secretary of Michigan, was chosen temporary chairman. The appointment of a temporary business committee was then brought about by the nomination of H. M. Clark, of Detroit; William McCullough, of Toronto, and Charles E. Thomas, of Nashville, Tenn., as the gentlemen to serve.

For the choosing of a committee on permanent organization the usual procedure was adopted and a recess taken. During the recess the state delegations selected a committee of one from each delegation to nominate permanent officers. The committee recommended the selection of the following named persons as permanent officers:

President—Thomas S. McPheeters, of St. Louis, chairman of the Missouri state committee. Vice-Presidents—Charles A. Jewell, of Connecticut; Thomas J. Wilkie, of Ontario; Daniel Coleman, of Alabama; Henry M. Avery, of South Dakota; Thomas D. Foster, of Iowa; Samuel P. Hartison, of Pennsylvania; John R. Schermerhorn, of Colorado.

Secretary—Herbert M. Clark, of Michigan.

Assistant Secretaries—Ralph E. Goodwin, of Connecticut; W. B. McBride, of Alabama; and William H. Mead, of California.

The recommendations were unanimously accepted and the nominees chosen.

ACRES OF FLAMES.

Destructive Fire at Long Island City—Immense Lumber Yards Burned.

NEW YORK, May 7.—Fire started in the Doncaster iron foundry at West avenue and Flushing street, Long Island City, at 11 o'clock last night, entirely consuming the building with its contents. The Clark & Simpson feed mills, next door, also took fire and were burned to the ground. The flames then spread to the immense lumber yards across the street, which cover seven or eight acres, or thirteen city blocks. Several different firms occupy this ground, among them being that of H. S. Whiting, H. S. Burroughs and the Export Lumber Co., owned by William R. Grace & Co. At midnight all of the lumber in these yards was burning with no possible hope of saving any of it.

L. E. McLane's lumber yard, adjoining the Long Island railroad depot, is burning. The firemen are being steadily driven back.

An unknown man was drowned in Newton creek while looking at the fire.

The fire was caused, it is supposed, by a spark from a casting which had been made just before the shop closed. The Clark & Simpson feed mills were burned to the ground and H. S. Whiting's retail lumber yard was entirely consumed. H. S. Burroughs's wholesale lumber yard in Newton creek, adjoining the export yard, was at 1 o'clock in the morning a mass of flames. The Tunis-Sims lumber mill followed and was soon a total loss.

The loss could not be estimated early this morning, but it was thought it might reach \$1,000,000.

"Old Hutch" in Boston.

BOSTON, May 7.—R. P. Hutchinson, of Chicago, arrived in Boston yesterday but declined to be interviewed. He seemed to be in fairly good health. In the course of the day he called upon Messrs. Farnum, Reardon & Co., brokers. Mr. Reardon afterward said that there was not the slightest mystery about Mr. Hutchinson's movements. His friends in Chicago and Boston knew perfectly well that he was going from Chicago when he did and always knew where he was. Mr. Reardon did not know his business here but said Mr. Hutchinson like to visit Boston where he had many friends.

SCENE IN THE CHAMBER.

The May Day Slaughter in France Excites the Deputies.

PARIS, May 5.—The chamber of deputies was the scene of a most exciting episode. M. Constans, the minister of the interior, having replied to a question with regard to the massacre of workingmen, women and children at Fourmies, department of the Nord, by troops on May day, was about resuming his seat when he was bitterly assailed by the radical deputy, M. Ernest Roche, who, springing to his feet, shouted out at the top of his voice the word, "Murderer!"

In a moment the chamber was in uproar, the members of the right hurling execrations at the head of M. Roche, while the radical deputies of the extreme left cheered and applauded their colleague.

In the midst of great confusion the chamber voted an order of censure and exclusion against the recalcitrant deputy. No sooner had this been done than M. Roche, shaking his clenched fist at the heads of the conservatives and making his voice clearly heard above the din which had now become terrific, in stentorian tones denounced them as "varlets worthy of their master."

At this point the officers approached the furious deputy and forcibly removed him from the chamber, which was now comparative only to a den filled with infuriated wild beasts.

In his report to the war department the commander of the troops at Fourmies assumes full responsibility for the action of his men on May day. He declares that the soldiers were ordered to fire only when it became evident that they were in danger of being either killed or disarmed. He also states that the mob was thrice summoned to disperse before the fatal fire was delivered.

M. Constans denied the accusations of M. Roche's statement. A mob of 4,000, said he, received the soldiers with a shower of stones. One officer was knocked down and the rioters were on the point of forcing their way through the troops when the commander called upon them to keep back. The summons was unheeded and the commander then ordered his men to fire into the air. This, however, had no effect and he then ordered the soldiers to fire point blank. The soldiers obeyed and the result was the killing of seven persons and the wounding of fourteen. Soldiers had a right to use their arms when in danger. The conduct of the army and the police throughout France on May day had checked serious social disorders.

M. Roche at this point cried "Murderer!" The chamber of deputies, by a vote of 356 to 33, passed a resolution declaring confidence in the government.

RUDINI CORRECTED.

Mr. Blaine Makes a Statement as to an Imputation of Bad Faith Made By the Italian Premier.

WASHINGTON, May 5.—The following dispatch was sent by Secretary Blaine yesterday:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, May 4, 1892.—A series of statements addressed to the Marquis Rudini by the Marquis Rudini was telegraphed from Rome yesterday and was published by the Associated Press of the United States to-day. The only part of the Marquis Rudini's communication which this government desires to notice is the one here quoted, namely: "I have now before me a note addressed to me by Secretary Blaine, March 14. Its perusal produces a most painful impression upon me. I will not stop to lay stress upon the lack of conformity with diplomatic usages displayed in making use, as Mr. Blaine did not hesitate to do, of a portion of a telegram of mine communicated to him in strict confidence in order to get rid of a question clearly defined in our official documents which alone possess a diplomatic value."

The telegram of March 21, concerning which public use the marquis complains, is the following, which was quoted in full in my note of April 14 to Marquis Rudini, charge of Italian legation: "Ital. Min. Wash., D. C."

"ROME, March 24.—The requests to the federal government are very simple. Some Italian subjects acquitted by the American magistrates have been murdered in prison while under the immediate protection of the authorities. Our right, therefore, to demand and obtain the punishment of the murderers and an indemnity for the victims is unquestionable. I wish to add that the public opinion in Italy is justly impatient, and if concrete provisions were not at once taken I should find myself in the painful necessity of showing openly our dissatisfaction by recalling the minister of his majesty from a country where he is unable to obtain justice."

The intimation of the Marquis di Rudini that the telegram in question was delivered in strict confidence is a total error. As the telegram expressed the demand of the Italian government, it was impossible that Marquis Rudini could transmit it in strict confidence. As I have already stated, it was communicated to me in person by Baron Fava, written in English in his own handwriting, without a suggestion of privacy, and the telegram itself has not a single mark upon it denoting a confidential character. I have caused a number of copies of the telegram to be forwarded to you to-day, in the same form as it was received, and they appear in the copies. You will see the facsimile in such manner as will most effectively prove the error into which the Marquis di Rudini has fallen.

Marquis Rudini is still in charge of the current business of the Italian legation, as since Baron Favaguet left Washington, so that it can not be said that diplomatic relations between the United States and Italy are severed. There has been no correspondence between the two governments since Secretary Blaine's note of April 14 to Imperiali, in which the secretary stated that the United States government was investigating the subject of the New Orleans tragedy.

William Is Dead.

DESELDORF, May 5.—At a banquet in his honor, Emperor William, after dilating upon his desire for the protection of the rights of laborers, and after expressing satisfaction at the conclusion of the commercial treaty with Austria, said: "As to the horae policy which is becoming established, I shall not deviate a hair's breadth from the course I have adopted. I alone am master in this country and nobody else." The emphatic language in regard to the treaty with Austria, which Prince Bismarck opposed, and also in regard to home affairs was evidently aimed at Prince Bismarck.

KANSAS CROPS.

A Satisfactory Report From Secretary Mohler For the Month of April.

TOPEKA, Kan., May 6.—Secretary Mohler issued his crop report for April last evening, as follows:

Correspondents of this board numbering about 600 and representing 103 of the 106 counties of the state, indicate very clearly by their reports to this office that the agricultural condition in a general way is very satisfactory throughout all parts of the state. Rainfall generally throughout the state was abundant—in some places excessive—during the first half of April, retarding greatly all kinds of farm operations, especially the sowing of oats and the preparation of corn ground for planting, etc. The weather being warm during a large portion of the month, the growth of wheat and all kinds of grasses was unusually strong and vigorous and fruit of every kind reached the first day of May without the least damage from frost.

The condition of winter wheat in the eastern half of the state is above the average at this date. In some counties correspondents report the presence of chinch bug and Hessian fly. Bugs are reported numerous in Butler, Chautauqua and Labette counties, also in Sumner county. The eggs and larva of the Hessian fly are found in the early sown wheat and are doing some damage, the extent of which is not great as yet. Further developments alone can determine the ultimate damage to the crop from this source. In the western half of the state there is but little complaint of Hessian fly, the reason being that wheat for the most part in that section was sown late last fall in consequence of dry weather in the early part of the season. In some central and many western counties, however, a considerable percentage of area was planted to wheat without plowing or cultivation of any kind whatever (being wheat stubble) and wheat sown in this way is, as a rule, in bad condition. The heavy rains in March and subsequent rains furnished too much water for the capacity of the soil in its hardened and compact condition to absorb at a sufficiently rapid rate. This extreme moisture or surplus water forced to remain on the surface with the hot suns which followed in the opinion of many of our correspondents is the real cause of the damaged condition of wheat in many sections of the state which has been attributed to other causes.

The area sown to spring wheat this year, as reported by our correspondents is 2 per cent. less than that of a year ago, making the total area of the present year, 137,500 acres, which is about the area in winter wheat—2,894,487 acres, as estimated a month ago—makes the aggregate wheat area (winter and spring) for the state 3,056,984 acres.

The area sown to oats this spring, our correspondents report is 14 per cent. less than that of a year ago—a decrease of 159,559 acres and making the oat area for the state this year, 1,067,512 acres.

In some of the southern counties from 80 to 90 per cent. of the corn was planted by May 1 and its cultivation commenced, while in some of the northern counties only 3 per cent. is reported as having been planted at that date.

The following is the summary of crop conditions for the state as furnished by our correspondents: Winter wheat, compared with full average, 99 per cent.; spring wheat, compared with full average, 98 per cent.; rye, compared with full average, 97 per cent.; tame grasses, compared with full average, 106 per cent.; fruit, compared with full average, 105 per cent.

EUROPEAN COMMERCE.

The Treaties Pending Likely to Affect the United States.

ROME, May 6.—The commercial treaty between Germany and Austro-Hungary has become a topic of comment by the press generally. In its ultimate consequences it bids fair to become a matter of the greatest concern to the people of the United States. It is announced that Germany and Austro-Hungary have invited Italy, Switzerland and Belgium to join in a convention at Vienna for the avowed purpose of forming a coalition of the central European states against protectionist countries. But why states whose customs tariffs are constructed so uniformly for the purpose of protecting their interests as those of Germany, Austro-Hungary and Italy can give out as the reason for the proposed coalition the protectionism of other countries, is a puzzle to those who have carefully studied the situation.

It is not yet known that Italy has consented to join the convention at Vienna, for the purpose of considering the subject. If she should, it would seem that the political ties of the triple alliance are stronger than her commercial necessities, for among her best friends, commercially considered, are France and the United States, though since the commercial treaty with France expired in 1887 Italy's exports to France have fallen off largely. Italy exports to Austria and Germany have fallen from 192,000,000 francs in 1885 to 151,000,000 francs in 1889. In 1890 the United States bought \$120,000,000 worth of goods.

Disagreement Probable.

TOPEKA, Kan., May 6.—The committee appointed by the legislature to investigate the Coffeyville explosion in 1888 held a meeting and adjourned until evening. The indications are that the committee will not be able agree on a report.

Killed By a Falling Branch.

LAMAR, Mo., May 6.—George Goodley, the sixteen-year-old son of Joseph Goodley, a prominent farmer living seven miles southeast of Lamar, was instantly killed yesterday afternoon by a falling limb from a tree on which he was chopping. The boy had found a buzzard's nest in a dead and rotten tree, and to secure the young birds was chopping it down. The blows of his ax dislodged a limb from the tree, which in its descent struck him on the head, with the above result.

The woods surrounding Halifax are on fire in a dozen different places.